



December 18, 2002

The Hartley County Harvester

**Hartley County FSA
District 1**
PO Box 177
Hartley, TX 79044-0177

Voice: (806) 365-4453
FAX: (806) 365-4446

Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee:
Marvin Batenhorst
Joe Parker
Bud Sneed

Minority Advisor:
Babette Spinhirne

Farm Program Staff:
Glen Clugy, CED
Becky Brown, PT
Becky Voight, PT
Teresa Gates, PT
Nicole Melendez, PT

Farm Loan Staff:
(Dalhart Office)
Marc Lathem, FLM
Barbara Koch, PT

Regular Committee Meetings
held on the 3rd Wednesday of
each Month.

Dates to Remember

**December 25th – Office
Closed for X-Mas**

**December 31st – End of
Emergency CRP
Grazing Period**

**January 1st – Office
Closed for New Year**

DCP Signup Underway

This office is currently enrolling farms into the 2002 and 2003 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Farm Program. Depending on which enrollment options you select, it takes about from 15 minutes to 1 hour per farm to get it enrolled into the program.

Additionally, this office is unable to tell you which option is best for your farming operation, so you will need to do your homework before scheduling an appointment to enroll your farm so that you can determine the best option available for your farms.

In researching the best option, you can get help from the Texas Agricultural Extension Service County Agent or use the internet software at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> or <http://agecoext.tamu.edu>.

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

Beginning with the 2003 crop year, producers will be ineligible for any commodity, conservation, or price support program benefit if their AGI exceeds \$2.5 million, unless 75% or more of the AGI is from farming, ranching or forestry. AGI is based on the average of the three tax years prior to the year benefits are requested. AGI is required from individuals, entities, and members of an entity. This information is NOT subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, and AGI will help FSA ensure we are paying actual ag producers and not professional athletes, media moguls, etc.

CRP Grazing Extended

In a continuing response to this year's widespread drought, the deadline for emergency grazing of Conservation Reserve Program acreage in Hartley County has been extended to December 31st. Producers grazing the acreage are reminded that livestock grazing the acreage must be removed before January 1st.

Any hay baled under the CRP emergency haying provision should have already been removed from the CRP acreage.

Foreign Investors

All foreign investors who have bought, sold, or converted any agricultural land are reminded that they are required by law to report the purchase, sale, or conversion to this office within 90-days of the transaction date. Failure to timely report could result in a penalty of up to 25% of the fair market value of the interest held in the agricultural land.

COC Election Results

The 2003 County Committee election was held on December 6th for the election of LAA #2's (northeastern portion of County) representatives for the next three years. The results of the election are:

Jason Schniederjan, COC Member
Marvin Batenhorst, 1st Alternate
Mark Schniederjan, 2nd Alternate

We thank everyone who took a part in the election and thank each of the nominees for their willingness to serve their community.

Pasture & Crop Certifications

Producers who purchased NAP for their 2003 pastures are reminded that they need to report their acreage at least 15-days before grazing occurs.

Additionally, all producers are reminded that all planted and perennial crops need to be reported 15-days prior to the crop being harvested mechanically or by livestock.

Failure to timely report can cause late-filed penalties to be applied.

Report Yields for NAP

After harvesting your noninsurable crops, you need to report the harvested production to FSA for NAP coverage. This certification will build an actual production history used to determine your expected production for payment eligibility. The deadline is the acreage reporting date for the subsequent crop year. Failure to file will result in decreased benefits.

Holidays



This office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th and January 1st for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. We wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season, and look forward to serving you in 2003.

On the World Wide Web:
USDA Washington Office
www.usda.gov
FSA Washington Office
www.fsa.usda.gov
Texas State FSA Office
www.fsa.usda.gov/tx
Hartley FSA
www.fsa.usda.gov/tx/tx205



